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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 USIA-15 TRSE-00 MBFR-03

SAJ-01 SS-15 NSC-10 ACDA-19 IO-13 OIC-04 RSR-01 /142 W
---------- 033019
R 231342Z AUG 73
FM US MISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1257
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 3233
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR
USDOCOSOUTH
USLOSACLANT

S E C R E T USNATO 3949

E.O. 11652: GDS 12/31/81
TAGS: PARM, NATO
SUBJECT: MBFR: STAFF GROUP PAPER ON SHAPE'S ASSESSMENT OF US
PAPER OF APRIL 30 1973.

FOLLOWING IS MBFR STAFF GROUP'S DRAFT PAPER ON SHAPE'S
ASSESSMENT OF THE US PAPER OF APRIL 30 WHICH WILL BE
ADDRESSED BY WG AUGUST 29.
QUOTE:

REVISED DRAFT REPORT
THE WORKING GROUP HAVE EXAMINED THE SHAPE ASSESSMENT OF THE
US PAPER OF 30TH APRIL, 1973, "US APPROACH TO MBFR", AND REGARD
IT AS A VALUABLE AND LASTING CONTRIBUTION TO ALLIANCE EFFORTS
ON MBFR. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THIS EXAMINATION IS AS YET
INCOMPLETE,
SINCE THE SHAPE ASSESSMENT OF OPTION 3 IS STILL FORTHCOMING. IN
THE COURSE OF THEIR EXAMINATION THE MEMBERS CONCENTRATED AT-
TENTION ON THE MILITARY AND TECHNICAL ASPECTS AND THE COMMENTS
MADE BELOW SHOULD BE REGARDED IN THAT LIGHT.
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2. IT IS NOTED THAT, ALTHOUGH THE US HAS MADE A MORE RECENT
CONTRIBUTION TO NATO, THE SHAPE ASSESSMENT OF THIS 30TH
APRIL US PAPER REMAINS A CURRENT AND IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION
OF INTEREST TO BOTH MILITARY AND POLITICAL AUTHORITIES AT NATO

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AND IN CAPITALS. MUCH OF THE SHAPE COMMENTARY TRANSCENDS STRICT APPLICABILITY TO THE PARTICULAR REDUCTION OPTIONS INVOLVED AND APPROPRIATELY ADDRESSES THE FUNDAMENTAL MILITARY SECURITY ISSUE INVOLVED IN THE GENERAL PROCESS OF MBFR. WE HAVE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC ITEMS:

3. SHAPE STATES IN PARAGRAPH 1 THAT COMPENSATION FOR THE ASSYMETRY OF REINFORCEMENT CAPABILITY APPEARS POSSIBLE ONLY THROUGH EFFECTIVE COLLATERAL MEASURES AND, MORE RELIABLY, THROUGH NATO FORCE IMPROVEMENT. WE BELIEVE THAT THE COMPENSATION WHICH COULD BE ACHIEVED THROUGH APPLICATION OF COLLATERAL MEASURES CAN ONLY BE PARTIAL. WE AGREE THE EMPHASIS ON NATO FORCE IMPROVEMENTS; WE FACE, HOWEVER, A DIFFICULT PROBLEM HERE IN ENSURING REDUCTIONS IN WP COMBAT CAPABILITY WITHOUT PUTTING FUTURE NATO FORCE IMPROVEMENTS AT RISK.

4. THE WORKING GROUP SUPPORTS THE SHAPE CONCEPT (PARAGRAPH 7) OF USING TWO PILLARS (MANPOWER AND EQUIPMENT) FOR NEGOTIATIONS AND AGREEMENTS; IT IS NOTED HOWEVER, THAT FURTHER CONSIDERATION NEEDS TO BE GIVEN TO THIS CONCEPT WHICH THE WORKING GROUP IS DOING.

5. WE AGREE THAT THE IMPLICATIONS OF REDUCTION CONCEPTS FOR NATO'S AGREED STRATEGY SHOULD NOT BE LIMITED TO ANALYSIS OF THE SCENARIO INVOLVING MASSIVE WP CONVENTIONAL ATTACK (PARAGRAPH 12), BUT SHOULD ALSO BE EXAMINED FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF LIMITED WP AGGRESSION.

6. THE SHAPE ASSESSMENT STATES A REQUIREMENT FOR ESTABLISHING COLLATERAL MEASURES IN THE THREE WMD (PARAGRAPH 17) WITH AGREED OVERT INSPECTION AS AN ESSENTIAL MINIMUM. SOME MEMBERS NOTE THAT THIS IS IN ACCORD WITH PREVIOUSLY HELD VIEWS OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS AND EMPHASISED THE NEED FOR COMPLETION OF THE ONGOING WORK IN THE SUB-GROUP ON MOVEMENT CONSTRAINTS. AMONG THE MANY MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WILLBE THE INTERPRETATION OF "ESSENTIAL" AND RECOGNITION THAT A RECIPROCAL SOVIET DEMAND

MIGHT INVOLVE NOT ONLY FRANCE AS SUGGESTED BY SHAPE BUT OTHER COUNTRIES AS WELL.

7. THE VIEWS CONCERNING VERIFICATION (PARAGRAPH 25), ESPECIALLY THAT OVERT INSPECTION IS A PREREQUISITE FOR UNDIMINISHED SECURITY ARE NOTED, BUT THERE IS SOME QUESTION AS TO WHETHER OVERT INSPECTION SHOULD BE SO STRONGLY EMPHASISED.

8. SHAPE'S VIEW THAT RECIPROCAL CONSTRAINTS (PARAGRAPH 26) SHOULD BE AS TIGHT AS POSSIBLE ON MOVEMENTS FROM OUTSIDE INTO THE NGA, AND AS LOOSE AS POSSIBLE ON MOVEMENTS WITHIN THE NGS IS IM KEEPING WITH OUR OWN WORK ON MOVEMENT CONSTRAINTS.

9. IT IS AGREED THAT US ANALYSIS OF REDUCTION OPTIONS (PARA-

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GRAPH 31) SHOULD NOT BE REGARDED AS THE ONLY SOURCE DOCUMENT FOR DETERMINING THE EFFECTS OF REDUCTION OPTIONS; OTHER NATIONAL AND SHAPE ANALYSES, OFTEN USING DIFFERENT ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODS WILL ALSO PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE.

10. ACKNOWLEDGING THAT THE ALLIANCE HAS AGREED THAT NATO REDUCTIONS SHOULD NOT EXCEED 10 PER CENT OF THE GROUND FORCES IN THE NGS (PARAGRAPH 41) IT IS IMPORTANT TO MAINTAIN THE VIEW THAT NATO REDUCTIONS MUST BE FULLY COMPENSATED BY WP REDUCTIONS.

11. THE WORKING GROUP AGREES THE SHAPE CAUTIONARY NOTE (PARA-GRAPH 42) IF BELGIUM AND NETHERLANDS FORCES PRESENTLY IN THE FRG ARE TREATED AS "STATIONED" FORCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF REDUCTION, MOVEMENT CONSTRAINTS SHOULD NOT BE IMPOSED IN TERMS OF STATIONED FORCES BUT RATHER IN TERMS OF FORCES REGULARLY LOCATED WITHIN THE NGA AND FORCES REGULARLY OUTSIDE THE NGA, AND THAT IF MOVEMENT CONSTRAINTS CANNOT BE NEGOTIATED IN THIS CONTEXT, NATO SHOULD RECONSIDER THE QUESTION OF TREATING THE ABOVE BELGIUM AND NETHERLANDS "STATIONED" FORCES AS "STATIONED".

12. THE WORKING GROUP ENDORSE IN PRINCIPLE THE SHAPE ASSESSMENT OF THE "US APPROACH TO MBFR" SUBJECT TO THE PRECEDING COMMENTS.
END QUOTE.
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USNMR SHAPE
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